

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-06 AGR-10 COME-00 EB-07 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /068 W

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O R 240838Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3761

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 3507

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, EAGR, RO, EEWT

SUBJECT: AGRIBUSINESS SEMINAR-MICULESCU VISIT

REF: STATE 170416

1. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ALONG WITH EMBASSY FEELS THAT FOUR CATSORIES MENTIONED IN PARA THREE REFTEL ARE WELL-SUITED FOR PARTICIPATING IN AGRIBUSINESS SEMINAR DURING MICULESCU VISIT. MINISTRY SUGGESTS IN ADDITION THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO INCLUDING FOOD PROCESSORS, ESPCEIALLY MEAT PACKERS AND VEGETABLE/FRUIT CANNERS. MINISTRY STATES THAT ROMANIAN VIEWS ARE IN PROCESS OF REFINEMENT SO AS TO PROVIDE LIST OF JOINT-VENTURE PRIORITIES BY END OF JULY TO SERVE AS ANNEX TO JOINT STATEMENT ON AGKRICULTURAL TRADE (STATE 16334-; FOR ITS PART, EMBASSY FORESEES THAT IRRIGATION AND WATER CONTROL WILL COME IN FOR INCREASED ATTENTION. IN THAT REGARD, INVITATION TO ATTEND SEMINAR MIGHT BE EXTENDED TO TWO FIRMS INTERESTED IN IBRD-FINANCED IRRIGATION PROJECTS AT GIAPGIU-RAZMIRESTI AND SADOVA-CORABIA: SUPERIOR FARMING COMPANY, 1725 K STREET N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C., TEL 833-1978 (MR. ROBERT I. SCHRAMM, VICE PRESIDENT); AND R. A. HANSON DISC, LTD., P.O. BOX 7400, SPOKANE,

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WASH. 99207, TEL. 509-489-5530 (MR. PETER A. KERWIEN,

SALES ADMINISTRATOR).

2. WE TOO ARE CONCERNED THAT COMMERCIAL PARTICIPANTS NOT BE LINED UP FOR SEMINAR THAT IS ULTIMATELY CANCELLED. MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE SPECULATED INFORMALLY THAT ABRIDGEMENT OF VISIT OR SUBSTITUTION OF VISITOR MIGHT RESULT FROM FLOOD-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS. WE HAVE REITERATED THAT INVITATION APPLIES TO MICULESCU ALONE. WE BELIEVE THAT AS OF NOW EVERYONE WANTS VISIT TO COME OFF AS PLANNED BUT WE CANNOT REALISTICALLY EXCLUDE CHANGES. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE STILL PROCEEDING WITH PLANNING FOR VISIT. OUR JUDGMENT HOWEVER IS THAT SEMINAR HELD AT BEGINNING OF TRIP IS LESS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED. AS TO MICULESCU AVAILABILITY FOR SEMINAR ON MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 3. WE CONSIDER THAT WASHINGTON PREFERENCES SHOULD PREVAIL. DRAWBACK TO MORNING SEMINAR MIGHT BE ELIMINATION OF RECEPTION AT END, SUPPOSING THAT LUNCH WITH SECRETARY BUTZ IS FIXED PLAN (THAT APPOINTMENT DOES NOT APPEAR ON AGENDA RECEIVED FROM BURCA, CONFIRMATION OF WHICH WAS REQUESTED FROM USDA IN BUCHAREST 3287). WITH MICULESCU CONCURRENCE ON AGRIBUSINESS SEMINAR IDEA, OUR SUGGESTION IS TO CONSTRUCT WASHINGTON SCHEDULE IN LIGHT OF WASHINGTON FACTORS.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, SEMINARS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, FLOODS, NATURAL DISASTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUCHAR03507
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750255-0344
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750723/aaaaaagn.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 170416
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JAN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGRIBUSINESS SEMINAR-MICULESCU VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, EAGR, EEWT, RO, (MICULESCU, ANGELO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006